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Library Services to State Government and to the State's Libraries



Montana
State Library

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

Library Development (LD) staff consults with libraries, administers grants, produces publications, conducts workshops and otherwise helps libraries meet their goal of providing services with a high degree of professionalism. Libraries automating services, hiring staff, dealing with censorship issues or facing a mill levy vote look to the LD staff for assistance. LD staff also coordinates library service to state institutions and has direct responsibility for the Patients' Library at Warm Springs State Hospital. (406) 444-5349



At a Library Development-sponsored Reference Institute, librarians from across Montana heard about services offered by state agency libraries.

LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND & PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

The Montana State Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped (LBPH) provides free library service to Montanans who are visually and/or physically handicapped. LBPH loans books and magazines in a

variety of non-print formats to eligible individuals and institutions. Special playback equipment is also provided. The materials are provided at no charge and are mailed "Free Matter" both to and from patrons. The Montana Cassette Book Program records materials by Montanans or about Montana for circulation to patrons. Volunteers record materials at studios in the State Library and at the Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge. (406) 444-2064; toll-free (800) 332-3400

INFORMATION RESOURCES

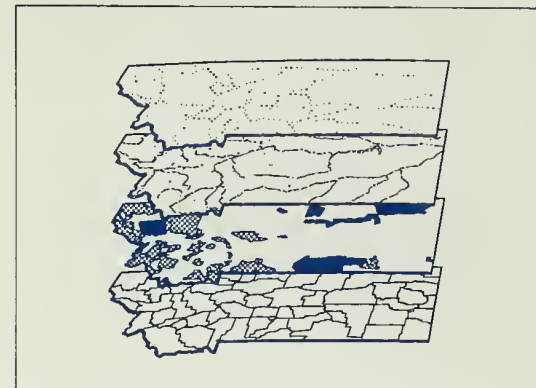
Information Resources (IR) is the library portion of the State Library. IR provides reference and information services to state agencies, state employees and the general public, and lends materials either directly to users or through academic, school, special or public libraries. IR also provides centralized library materials acquisition, cataloging and technical processing and operates a depository for state and federal documents. (406) 444-3004



An Information Resources staff member tells librarians about IR's function as a federal documents depository.

NATURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Natural Resource Information System (NRIS), along with the Montana Natural Heritage Program, offers access to data about Montana's vast natural resources.



A GIS map of Montana shows data in layers.

NRIS projects are:

- ❖ The Water Information System (WIS), linking all major water resources databases nationwide and about 15 others managed by state agencies;
- ❖ The Geographic Information System (GIS), which develops map products for state and federal project managers;
- ❖ The Natural Heritage Program, which has a computer inventory of Montana's biological resources, emphasizing rare, threatened or endangered species, and,
- ❖ The Montana Natural Resource Index, listing natural resource-related documents on file at the State Library and at other state agencies. NRIS/GIS/WIS: (406) 444-5354; Heritage: (406) 444-3009

THE MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

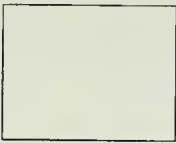
The Montana State Library is the principal library and information source for state government and for library services to the blind and physically handicapped. It is also a central information point for natural resource data, and a major source of information and assistance for all types of libraries--public, school, academic and special--throughout the state.

Every Montanan can use the State Library's collection. Local libraries often borrow books, magazines and other items for their patrons. Those Montanans who have no access to public library services may borrow directly from the State Library and make use of its reference services.

ADMINISTRATION

Daily operations of the State Library are directed by the Montana State Librarian. Policies and procedures for the State Library are established by a seven-member State Library Commission. Five members are appointed by the governor; one is an academic librarian appointed by the Commissioner of Higher Education, and one is the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee.

**Montana State Library
1515 E. 6th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
(406) 444-3115**



MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

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